

Message Text

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20/13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 FBIE-00 SY-04 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 RSC-01 INR-07 PA-02 PRS-01 SCA-01 L-02 USSS-00

/054 W

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O R 250820Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2171

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

USDEL JEC PARIS

UNCLAS SAIGON 0925

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT PARA 4 LINE 11

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR VS

SUBJ: DEMONSTRATION BY NINE AMERICAN ANTI-WAR ACTIVISTS

DEPARTMENT PASY USIA FOR IBS/NCA

REF : SAIGON 0916

1. DURING THE COURSE OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY YESTERDAY THE GROUP REFUSED TO COMPLY WITH POLITE REQUESTS TO PROCEED TO THE OFFICES OF THE VIETNAMESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE TO DISCUSS THEIR STATUS. SINCE GROUP OBVIOUSLY WAS LOOKING FOR PHYSICAL CONFRONTATION IN FRONT OF TELEVISION CAMERAS, POLICE WISELY DID NOTHING UNTIL THEY DISPERSED FOR EVENING. THEY WERE PICKED UP BY POLICE AT THEIR HOTEL QUIETLY AND WITH METICULOUS POLITENESS ESCORTED TO AIRPORT AND PUT ABOARD AIR VIET-NAM FLIGHT TO BANGKOK. THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR MADE THE FOLLOWING BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT:

"NINE AMERICANS CONSISTING OF 6 MALES AND 3 FEMALES,

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ARRIVING IN VIET-NAM ON JAN. 20, 1975, HAD TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF

THEIR TRANSIT WITHOUT VISA FOR TOURISM, TO CREATE DISORDER DURING THE DAY OF JANUARY 24, 1975.

THESE ALIENS HAD NOT RESPECTED THE IMMIGRATION LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM; THEREFORE THEY WERE FORCED TO LEAVE VIET-NAM.

THEY HAD DEPARTED SAIGON FOR BANGKOK AT 21.30 HRS ON JANUARY 24, 1975 BY THE REGULAR AIR VIET-NAM FLIGHT."

2. ONE OF THE DEMONSTRATORS TOLD A U.S. NEWSMAN THAT THEIR TRIP TO VIET-NAM HAD BEEN PAID FOR BY THE INDOCHINA RESOURCES COMMITTEE IN SAN DIEGO. SINCE ROUND TRIP ECONOMY CLASS FARES FROM NEW YORK TO SAIGON NOW APPROXIMATELY \$1,900, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT DECISION HAD BEEN MADE THAT IT WAS WORTH MORE THAN \$17,000 TO HAVE ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUP SUPPLEMENT THAT OF PROPAGANDA EXTRAVAGANZA NOW BEING STAGED BY INTERFAITH GROUP IN WASHINGTON. IT ALSO INTERESTING THAT TV CREWS AND CAMERAMAN ARRIVED BEFORE THE DEMONSTRATIONS.

3. THIS MORNING SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICIAL TOLD BY HIGH GVN OFFICIAL THAT THEY HAD LEARNED GROUP HAD COORDINATED WITH LOCAL BUDDHIST RADICAL ACTIVISTS FOR STAGED SCENARIO WHICH WHICH CALLED FOR PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION BY AMERICANS BEFORE EMBASSY ON FRIDAY TO BE FOLLOWED ON SATURDAY BY JOINT BUDDHIST-AMERICAN GROUP WHO WOULD CONTRIVE PHYSICAL CONFLICT WITH POLICE TO PROVIDE TV COVERAGE ON SUNDAY IN U. S. OF AMERICANS AND BUDDHISTS BEING PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED BY "CRUEL, REPRESSIVE SAIGON POLICE". THEREFORE, THEY DECIDED TO FOIL THE PROPAGANDA EXERCISE BY POLITELY DEPORTING THE AMERICANS.

4. INFORMATION IN PARA 1 ABOVE AND REFTEL SHOULD PROVIDE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN WITH THE FACTS NECESSARY TO ANSWER POSSIBLE PRESS INQUIRIES. IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO FULLY USE INFORMATION RECORDED ABOVE. IF QUESTION ARISES WHETHER EMBASSY INTERVENED ON BEHALF OF THE NINE AMERICANS WE SUGGEST RESPONSE BE THAT THE EMBASSY ASSURED ITSELF THAT THE NINE AMERICANS WERE PROPERLY TREATED. THEY WERE SO TREATED. SINCE THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES WERE SIMPLY EXERCISING THE SOVEREIGNERS SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED IN THE COUNTRY NO UNCLASSIFIED

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FURTHER INTERVENTION WAS CALLED FOR ANY MORE THAN WE WOULD EXPECT EMBASSIES IN THE U. S. TO INTERVENE IN SUCH DETERMINATIONS X BY THE PROPER AMERICAN AUTHORITIES WITH REGARD TO FOREIGNERS ENTERING THE U. S. TO STAGE PROPAGANDA CONFRONTATIONS BEFORE EMBASSY PREMISES.

5. SURE ENOUGH, THIS MORNING ABOUT SEVEN BUDDHIST MONKS AND TWO NUNS APPEARED BEFORE THE EMBASSY ASKING WHERE WERE

THEIR AMERICAN FRIENDS.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
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